

THE BLACK RANGE.

DEVOTED TO THE MINING INTERESTS OF THE BLACK RANGE COUNTRY.

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NEWS AND COMMENTS.

Lot M. Morrill died at Augusta, Maine, on the 10th instant.

The value of town property in Silver City has doubled in the six weeks just passed.

Wilson Waddington gave each paper in San Miguel county \$25.00 as a New Year's present.

Mrs. George Scoville has finally been granted a decree of divorce from her husband, Lucky George.

Ten men were killed at Coulterville, Illinois, by the explosion of a fire damp in a coal mine on the 9th instant.

The money that the citizens of Oregon and California expended in the Modoc war will be refunded by the government.

Funds are being raised by subscription in the large cities of the east with which to make fitting acknowledgment of the services rendered by the brave firemen during the burning of the Newhall hotel at Milwaukee Wisconsin.

A lighted wedding occurred at Pajarito, near Albuquerque, January 10th, the contracting parties being Boleto Romero, of Los Lunas, and Refugia Chavis, daughter of Frank Chavis. Four hundred guests were present.

Marshal Sherman while in office must have spent his money freely for it is stated that United States marshal Morrison has received twenty thousand dollars to pay off back fees due for court attendants during 1881 and 1882 under Marshal Sherman's administration.

The Marquis of Lorne wrote to General Sherman asking if it was safe for the Princess Louise to winter in Charleston South Carolina. The Marquis evidently has not forgotten the occurrences of twenty-two years ago. But he need not be alarmed. Things have changed since then.

Dr. Ott attached a pen to rattlesnake's tail and the record received by a revolving drum determined that this appendage vibrated sixty times per second. Rattlesnakes are not a nice thing to experiment with but if the cause of science makes research necessary the tail is the safest end to practice on.

Jem Mace, champion of England and the world as a boxer is about to give Johnny Sullivan a chance to use him up in three rounds, and a pupil of Mace's named Slade a half-breed New Zealander, will undertake the job of defeating the American champion in a fight. It is to be hoped that he will do it.

One hundred settlers on government land in Rio Arriba county are protesting against the contemplated annexation of that country to the Ute Indian reservation. The settlers have been on the lands four and five years and have made many valuable improvements and it will work a great hardship if they are compelled to leave them all and move.

The question of encouraging ship building is the subject of second importance that occupies the attention of congress since the civil service bill is disposed of. This is in reality far more important than any other item of legislation and it is to be hoped that something will be done to make the improvement of American shipping possible.

A deaf and dumb girl of Detroit gains an advantage in a breach of promise suit through her idiomity. The defendant necessarily used her tablet in making his proposal of marriage, and she had sufficient forethought to preserve the writing. The lack of power of speech does not necessarily incapacitate a woman for keeping within sight of the band wagon.

In spite of all that is been said and published, and in spite of the undeniable richness of the Sierra properties at Lake Valley the stocks of the company continue to decline and on the 10th the Sierra Grande had fallen to \$2.15. The public is getting cute and not so easily swindled by sharpers as it was a year or two ago.

While the Princess Louise was at the hot springs of Las Vegas the Gazette reporter gained an introduction to her by means of a little dog. The lady did not care for the newspaper man's acquaintance but she was delighted to see the dog. And yet the Gazette man is flattered by the occurrence. The development of the bump of self esteem is smaller in some persons than in others.

Ten or fifteen thousand dollars worth of work has been done on the Iron King mine, one mile and a half from Kingston. It has two shafts eight feet deep and various cross-cuts. There are copper carbonates and manganese oxide. Kingston Tribune. The cross-cuts must be exceedingly numerous or very extensive. Ten or fifteen thousand dollars judiciously expended will accomplish considerably more than two eight foot shafts.

The Luna men are now trying to make themselves believe that the notice of contest by Mr. Manzanares was not properly served in time. They fully realize that Mr. Luna cannot possibly stand on the Valencia county frauds and a square contest on the merits of the case, and hence hope to profit by the laxness of the opposition and triumph on technical ground. Their hopes are baseless. Due notice has been served in half a dozen ways; any one of which is sufficient to sustain the contest.

Clarence Whistler, American champion, and John Graham, English champion, wrestled at Louisville, Kentucky, on the 13th instant. The stakes \$500 best two in three. The first round, catch as catch can, was won by Whistler. The second, Greco Roman, was won by Graham, in a claim of foul against Whistler. The third, Greco-Roman, after Whistler wrestling seventeen minutes, Graham threw Whistler to the floor heavily, the fall breaking the latter's right shoulder. The match was decided in favor of Graham to whom the stakes were paid.

Poor unfortunate President Arthur. People who have any sympathy in their hearts for suffering humanity must be deeply grieved at the great misfortune that has befallen the nation's chief executor. Senator Mahone of Virginia, is angry at him and has cut his acquaintance. There was a vacant judgeship in Virginia and Mahone named the man to fill it. General Grant suggested a man also. The president showed more disposition to consider the matter than to endorse Mahone's demand at once, and the dictator became so abusive that Mr. Arthur rebuked him and he left in a rage. President Arthur was alive at last accounts.

Judge Bristol is building him a residence in Deming preparatory to removing hither from Mesilla, his present location. The Georgetown Courier and Rio Grande Republican charge that the judge has been given property in Deming by the A. T. & S. F. railroad company, and that he is influenced by this corporation in his change of residence. The Deming Headlight denies the charge claiming that the official purchased what property he has acquired in Deming by purchase with his own money, but that the citizens of the town have purchased \$350 worth of property to present to him. The fight over the matter has a torrid temperature.

The Lincoln County Leader publishes this item: "There are a number of desperate characters who make their headquarters in the Black Range and push their peculiar kind of industry between there and the surrounding towns. Hold-ups are getting to be quite an ordinary occurrence over in that region." What portion of the Black Range does this item refer to? The plain title of the "Black Range" has been usually attached to this section in distinction from Pecos and Lake Valley. If this is the rendezvous referred to nothing could be more false than this statement, for there has never yet been a hold-up here, and there is not a single rough or desperate character known to be within fifty miles of us. Please be more explicit in such statements as this Mr. Leader.

A fierce war is raging between the sheep and cattle men of Colorado at the headwaters of the little Rio Grande in the north eastern portion of El Paso county. For a year or more a part of the sheep men have received anonymous letters, warning them to move their herds out of this section of the country or stand the consequences. No attention has been paid to these letters. On Thursday afternoon an armed body of masked men rode up to the ranch of Stephen Holden, just after his sheep had been corralled for the night, and after frightfully beating Holden and leaving him unconscious upon the ground, set fire to his cabin and corral, and began firing volleys of bullets into the herd. Those sheep not killed strayed up the plains, and at the time of this writing have not been found. It is thought to be only the beginning of another war between the cattle and sheep men.

The Newhall house, a six-story structure of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, burned on the morning of the 10th instant, and one hundred lives were lost. This was the most fatal hotel disaster that has ever occurred in the United States. The fire caught or was set in the elevator way, which acting as a chimney carried the flames to all parts of the building with such rapidity that the greater number of the inmates of the house were not awakened from their slumbers until their chambers were ablaze. There were some two hundred people in the building when the alarm sounded and not more than half escaped alive. Many jumped and were dashed to pieces upon the pavement, but more perished silently in the flames. The greatest mortality was among the house employees who occupied the sixth story of the building. The house was considered to be a sort of a tinder box, and but few companies would carry any risks upon it; consequently while its value was placed at \$800,000 the insurance amounted to not more than \$100,000. The building was old, having been built thirty years ago, and was consequently but poorly supplied with fire escapes or ladders. The horrible story of the Brooklyn theater fire resulted in great improvements in the construction of theater buildings all over the world, and it is probable that this sad circumstance will bring about the same result in the architecture of hotels. There is nothing of more importance in public buildings than easy egress in case of necessity.

Marriage Customs in California.

In all cases the expense of the marriage should be borne by the bride's family, who are tacitly understood to be getting the best of the bargain.

In cases where the bride has been twice divorced previously or is a little off-color, so to speak, a quiet marriage by a justice of the peace is best. His regular price by law is \$2, but if the bride is a regular customer he should knock off twenty-five or fifty cents according to circumstances.

The "swell" custom is for the bride's father to place some government bond or check for \$10,000 among the presents, it being a point of honor with the groom to let it alone after the ceremony until the old gentleman can take it back or tear it up. It is always best strictly to regard this, as it is awkward to present the check at the bank and be told that there are no funds.

In case of a marriage by a clergyman, courtesy demands that the groom present him with a \$5 bill. Courtesy gets "left," however, very often since stocks are down.

If the groom be over sixty and the bride under twenty, as is often the case in San Francisco, she should never presume on any occasion to forget the respect due to age. The custom here is always to refer to him jocularly when he is present, as "you wretched boy," and when he is absent, as "grandpa."

Reference to the past should always be mutually avoided in second marriages, as comparisons of the kind are odorous.

In preparing the family register the names of former husbands or wives are not inserted, nor any offspring of previous progeny ledger devoted to that particular venture.

The tin wedding, which used to take place at the end of five years of matrimony, is obsolete in California, having been replaced by the silver wedding at that period, which is rare. The tin wedding now takes place at the end of one year, and if the parties are living together and on speaking terms at the end of that period, it is a season of rejoicing. These reunions are very rare, however.—California Wasp.

Why He Didn't Explain.

Some eight or ten years ago a silvery tongued chap, who claimed to be a fruit tree agent, swindled the farmers of this county in a shameful manner, and one resident of Nankin was so mad about it that he came to Detroit, searched the rascal out and gave him a pounding on the street. After he got through his work he told the fellow he would lick him twice as bad if he ever put his eyes on him again, and it was a threat to be remembered. About three weeks ago the Nankin man was traveling in Washtenaw county, and as he journeyed along the highway he met a traveler who so closely resembled the fruit tree swindler that he halted and called out: "Here you are again, you bold-faced rascal."

"Yes; I'm here," was the calm reply. "Well, so'm I, and I'm going to lick you until I can't hold you!" I said I'd do it, and I always keep my word. Climb down here!"

The stranger "climb" without a protest, shedding his coat as he struck the ground, and a fight began. In about two minutes he had used up the farmer and was coolly replacing his coat.

"See here," said the man from Nankin, as he wiped his nose with burdock, "you fight better than you did eight years ago."

"Well, I dunno. This is my first affair with you."

"Didn't I wallop you in front of the Detroit post-office eight years ago?"

No, sir. I was in Australia up to a year ago."

"And you never saw me before?"

"Never."

"And never was in Nankin?"

"Never."

"Well, I'll be hanged! Come to look at you, I can see that you are not the man. Why on earth didn't you explain, or ask me to? You must have thought me mistaken."

"Oh, yes; I knew you were mistaken, but I had just discovered that I had ridden seven miles on the wrong road and was wishing some one would come along and give me two words. I didn't want any explanation about it. I feel fifty per cent better. So long to you!" —Free Press.